

SCENES AT FORT DUCHESNE



MAJ.
R. R.
PAGE
WAINWRIGHT

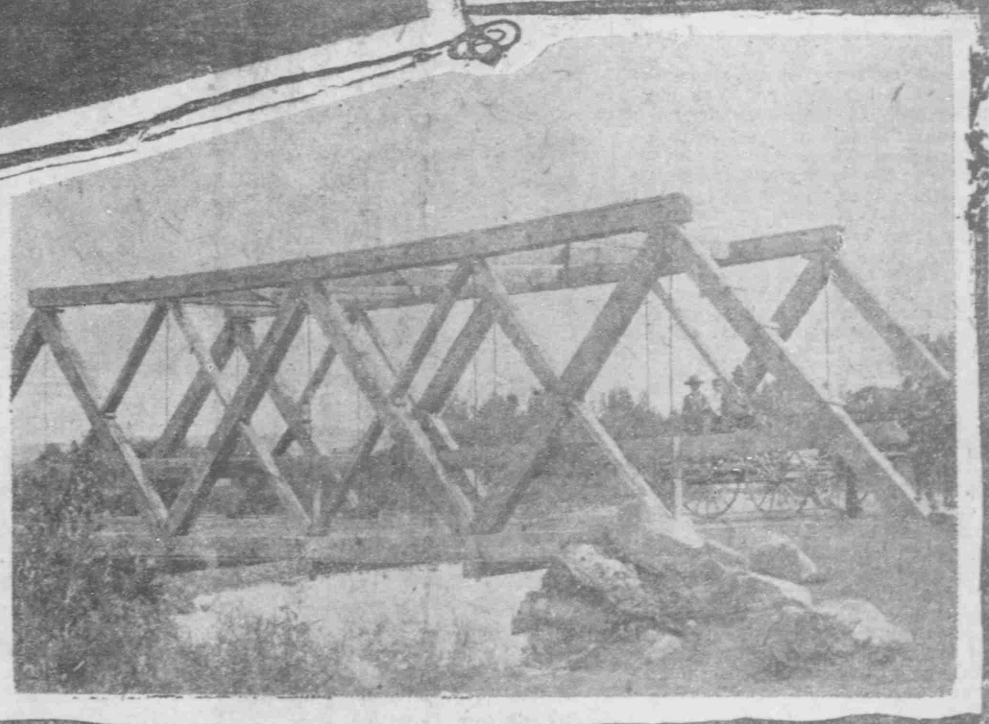
GENERAL VIEW OF
THE POST

RESIDENCE OF
COMMANDING OFFICER.



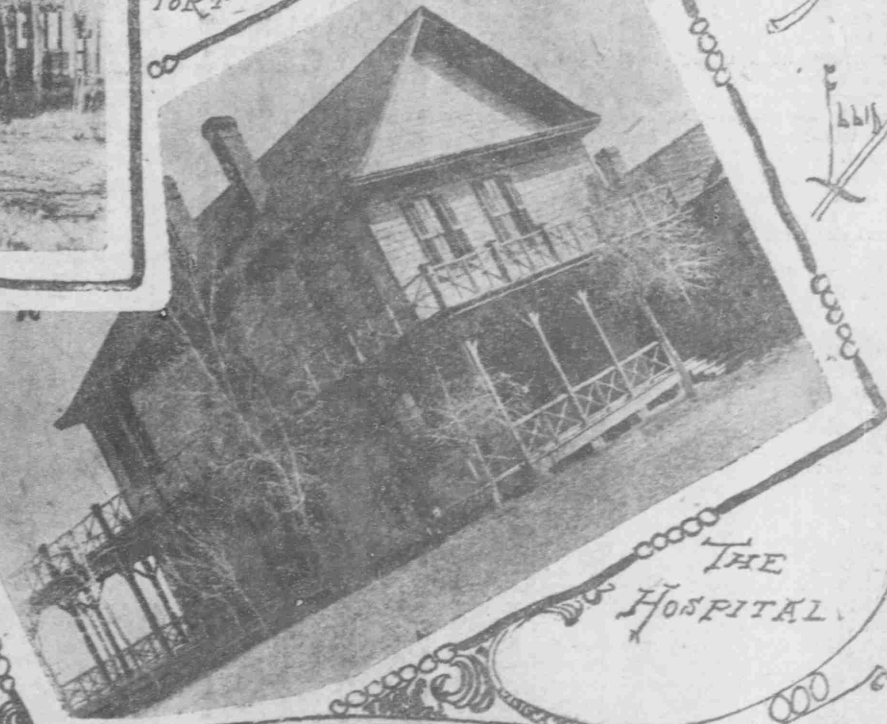
MAJ. GEN.
ADNA R.
CHAFFEE

GENERAL VIEW OF
OFFICERS' QUARTERS

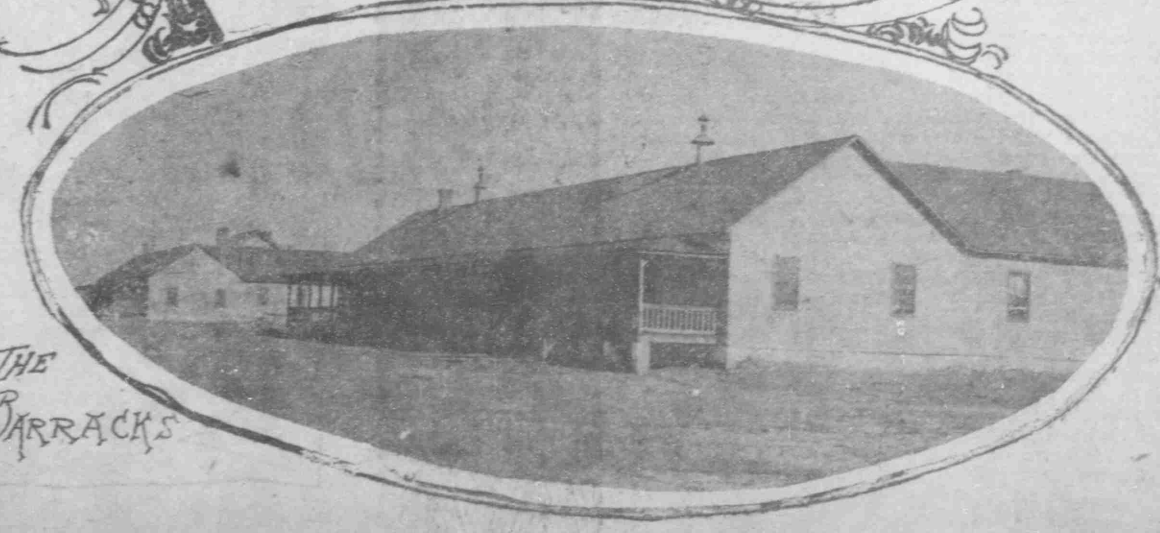


ADMINISTRATION
BUILDING

BRIDGE OVER
UNTAK RIVER,
NEAR
FORT



THE
HOSPITAL



THE
BARRACKS

The photographs on this page
were taken by Quartermaster Ser-
geant A. J. McDonald, through
whose courtesy they are used.

WAY out in the middle of a de-
serted country, an oasis in a
desert of sagebrush and prickly
pears, lies Fort Duchesne; a
place many have heard of, but of which
few have an adequate idea. The aver-
age person has a hazy impression that
there is such a fort; that it was built
because of the Indians, and that now
and then detachments are sent out to
look after rebellious redskins and ob-
noxious whites. Beyond that all is a
mist.

Yet, according to General MacArthur,
Fort Duchesne is one of the most im-
portant posts in the country, and it is
owing to the presence of the garrison
that the Utes and other Indians in that
section have been held to the path of
moderation and made to see the folly and
wisdom of a strenuous life, when di-
rected in the way of warfare.

It was in 1886, after various Indian
depredations and the murder of num-
erous whites, including the famous
Xavier massacre, that the government
decided that the safety of the settlers
demanded protection, and Gen. Crook
was sent out to locate a site for the
erection of a fort. On the Uintah river,
in the northeastern part of the state,
a site was selected. Fort Du-
chesne was the result. Nineteen miles
southeast lies the Uncompaghe
agency, while the White Rocks, or
Utah agency, is fourteen miles to the
north. The nearest settlement is the
pretty little town of Vernal, which is
twenty-eight miles northeast, and the
county seat of Uintah county, in which
the fort is located.

The nearest railroad connection is
at Price, distant ninety-three miles, and
connected with the post by daily stage.
The drive of almost a hundred miles
over a very rough country, through
mud and sleet in the winter,
and almost unbearable heat and dust
in the summer, and traversing two
mountain ranges, there is one redem-
ting feature of the trip, and that is the
drive through what is known as Gate
canyon, a miniature Grand canyon of
the Colorado.

It is through this country that troops
moving and entering the fort are
forced to march, the time generally
requiring from six to seven days. Owing
to the frequent changes in the per-
sonnel of the post, it is no strange
thing to see one or two companies of
soldiers on the march. It is only
within the last three weeks that a num-
ber of veterans from the Philippines
made the march.

Fort Duchesne itself, though located
in a barren desert, is really a beautiful
spot, and, under the present command-
er, Major Wainwright, has been won-
derfully improved in the last few
months. After the end of a long drive
across the burning plains, its neat
appearing houses and green lawns are
particularly inviting to the weary trav-

eler. Everything about the place is
neatness itself, and order reigns su-
preme.

Troops E and B, under command of
Major F. W. Benteen, were the first oc-
cupants of the fort. They arrived after
a forced march of thirty-five miles
through the virgin desert, foot-sore,
weary, covered with the fine dust of
the desert, and baked by the fierce sun.
Owing to the ugly reports of the evil
intentions of the Indians, the tired sol-
diers were set to work digging, and by
morning the entire camp was surround-
ed by trenches. Numerous sentries and
videttes were posted and the whole
company was told off for picket duty,
but the presence of the soldiers had a
quieting effect on the redskins, and no
violence was experienced.

Among the first commanders of the
post was General Adna R. Chaffee,
then a major in the Ninth cavalry, and
who led the relief expedition to Pekin
in the recent Chinese trouble. Other
commanders were Major Benteen, Col-
onel Hatch, Major Randlett, Lieuten-
ant Colonel Hough, Captain Wick-
meyer, Major Riley, Lieutenant Koeb-
ler, Captain Wright, Captain Parker,
Major Godfrey, Captain Guilfoyle, Ma-
jor Hughes, Major Watts, Lieutenant
Hall, Lieutenant Dallon and the pre-
sent commander, Major R. R. Page
Wainwright.

Major Wainwright is one of Uncle
Sam's most gallant soldiers, with a
record to be proud of. He is a type of
the progressive soldier, a strict disci-
plinarian, thorough gentleman and ideal
host. Under his jurisdiction the post
has been improved in a number of
ways. Major Wainwright was gradu-
ated from West Point in 1875, was as-
signed to the First cavalry as second
lieutenant and served with that reg-
iment until assigned major of the
Fifth cavalry. He participated in the
Nez Perce war in 1877, the Bannock
and Platte war in 1878, and various ex-
peditions, Indian and otherwise,
throughout Oregon, Washington, Mon-
tana, Utah, Idaho and Arizona.

He was ordered to Cuba in 1898, and
commanded a squadron in the battle of
Los Guasimas. He was all through the
battle of San Juan, and, in fact, saw
fighting in all the principal battles of
the Spanish war.

On his return to the United States,
after the surrender of the Spanish at
Santiago, he was detailed mustering
out officers for the state of Illinois, and
mustered out over 10,000 troops.

He assumed command of Fort Du-
chesne in November, 1901, and is now
expecting to leave for the Philippines.
Major Wainwright was brevetted for
gallantry in action in the battle of
Unadilla agency in 1877. He comes from
a fighting family, his father, Com-
mander J. M. Wainwright of the United
States ship Harriet Lee, having been
killed in battle during the civil war,
and his brother, James Wainwright, Jr.,
of the United States ship Mohican,

having lost his life off the west coast
of Mexico while in an action with
pirates in 1876.

Mammy Mary's Message.
(Current Literature.)

In the course of her career Mammy
Mary had met many distinguished per-
sons, but her own importance as nurse
for three generations in the family of
General John B. Gordon of Georgia,
kept her from being overwhelmed by the
honor.

When Mrs. Cleveland, during the sec-
ond term of her husband's presidency,
visited the Gordons at the governor's
mansion in Atlanta, she expressed a de-
sire to see a genuine old negro mammy.
So the carriage was hitched up and
Mammy Mary was sent for at Sutherland,
the Gordon country place, which she pre-
ferred to the noise and excitement of
official life. When the coachman drew
up he found her smoking her evening
pipe. Not a step would she stir.

"She done say," said the unsuccessful
envoy, on his return to town, "dat she
don't want to see no presidents; she done
see 'nough presidents."

Mrs. Cleveland laughed heartily when
she heard this. Then she proposed to go
to the mountain, since Mahomet refused
to budge, and the next day she drove out
to Sutherland.

"I am surprised, Mammy Mary," said
Mrs. Gordon, before introducing the dis-
tinguished guest, "that you sent such a
message. You have never been impolitely
paid."

"An' dat nigger done tell what I say?"
Well, he never did have no sense an' no
mannah! Cose I 'spected he'd say I's
sorry I's indispensed!"

The Stumbling Point.
(Washington Star.)

There once was a tradesman who started
a shop.

On a very elaborate scale;
On covens to talk of this may they would
stop.

And his rivals would gasp and turn
pale.

The town was agog o'er the things he set
out.

In bargains, from wagons to hoods.
But through one little flaw his defeat
came about.

He couldn't deliver the goods.
Not only in commerce you'll often behold
The man who with promises fine
Is winning the cheers of the crowd—which
grows cold.

When a candidate new gets in line.
He glitters awhile in a glorious style.
And then he must take to the woods.
There are few, amongst the many who
to budge, and the next day she drove out
to Sutherland.